(b) the details of this plan;

(c) the manner in which the NHAI would be equipped to embark on such missions;

(d) whether such activities would distract NHAI from road safety initiatives; and

(e) the steps proposed to work on NH-5 sector on this mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) is implementing HIV/AIDS awareness campaign through Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). Accordingly, NHAI is implementing HIV/AIDS awareness campaign along NH-2 (Delhi - Kolkata), NH-28 (Lucknow-Muzaffarpur), NH-26 and NH-7 (LalipurtoAnantpur-Andhra Pradesh/Karnataka Border) and on NH-76 & NH-25 (Chittorgarh - Jhansi).Presently, four NGOs have been awarded contracts for implementing HIV/AIDS awareness campaign along NH-28 (Lgcknow-Muzaffarpur).

(c) The NHAI has set up one HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Unit with experts for assisting NHAI in implementing this programme.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Presently, the NHAI's HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Programme is being implemented as part of loan commitments to the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) along the identified stretches as mentioned in replies to part (a) and (b) of the question. NH-5 is not covered under this mission.

Discontinuation of Toll Tax on Kishangarh ROB in Rajasthan

†3992. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Rajasthan have requested for discontinuation of toll tax recovery of Rail Over Bridge (ROB), Kishangarh

† Originai notice of the question was received in Hindi.

because of existence of two toll plazas on 80 km. stretch of National Highway No. 8;

(b) if so, by when such toil tax recovery would be discontinued and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the provision regarding recovery of cost in National Highway Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. However, only toll/user free (not toll tax) is being collected.

(b) and (c) User fee is to be collected in perpetuity as per the National Highways (Fees for the use of National Highways Section and Permanent Bridge-Public Funded Projects) Rules, 1997 made pursuant to the National Highways act, 1956. These Rules also provide for toll collection at a distance less than 80 km with the approval of Central Government.

Ghazipur crossing on NH-24

3933. SHRI T.T.V DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware of heavy traffic at the Ghazipur crossing on National Highway 24; and

(b) if so, the action taken to ease the traffic in the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Ghazipur crossing is located on National Highway-24,widening of which in Delhi has been taken up in phases depending upon availability of funds and *inter se* priority of works.

Objections to bridge being constructed under Sethu Samudram Canal

3934. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an eminent Jurist and former Judge of Supreme